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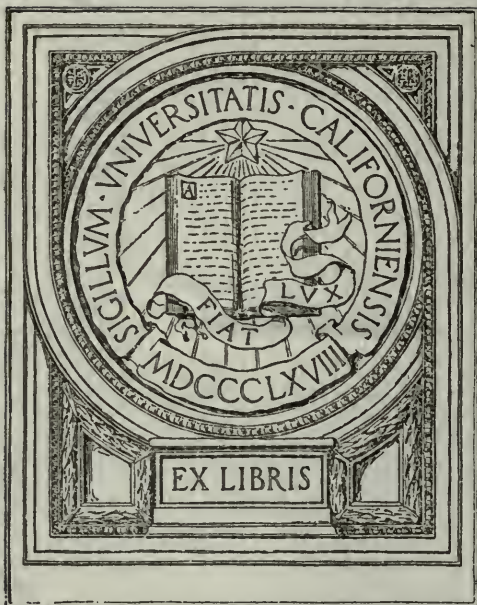
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ADDRESS

TO THE

St. Andrew's Society

San Francisco, April 3rd, 1916

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BY

DR. W. F. McNUTT

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ADDRESS TO THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY

By

Dr. W. F. McNUTT

Mr. President and Friends:

The text this evening is Our Hyphenated Friends and a few remarks on collateral subjects.

It is said of the Scotchman that he must always talk or preach from a text, and that his hearers never expect or require his preachment to have any particular relation to the theme indicated by the text. For instance, the dear old minister that I have in days ago listened to a thousand times, regardless of what his text might be, somewhere in the course of his long sermon never failed to remind us that we could be sure our sins would find us out. From the great number of indictments being issued of late by our courts we are quite justified in believing that the sins of at least some of our hyphenated friends, are finding them out. Since so many of our hyphenated citizens have abused our hospitality and proved faithless to the country they solemnly swore to defend and protect and dishonored the country from which they came, it is a matter of congratulation that not in the political arena or in electioneering handbills do we find demagogues bidding for hyphenated Scotch votes. The Scotch have left the hyphen to those who have made it a byword and a scandal. We most undoubtedly have too many hyphenated citizens who designate the land of their nativity by a very large capital letter before the hyphen and a very small *a* after it. When a Scotchman takes up his abode in a foreign land, he becomes a respectable and honored citizen of the country, and would despise to stoop to the dishonorable and dastardly methods now being perpetrated in this country by so many of our hyphenated citizens and their countrymen. When an alien becomes an American by adoption, he should be an American in fact, no hyphen. It is reported broadcast that many of our hyphenated citizens have received dispensations from the governments of their nativity, allowing them to become citizens of our country for political and voting purposes, while they retain their citizenship in the government

from which they solemnly swore to forever sever their obligations. From such citizens and the governments issuing the dispensations may the good Lord deliver us! With all such honor is but an empty bubble.

A gentleman invited to participate in a hyphenated race convention of his countrymen, recently held in New York, declined the invitation, saying that he was "so fully occupied just now in trying to be a faithful American citizen that he had no time for considerations of the fortunes of any other country, except to sympathize with the unfortunate peoples afflicted by the unspeakable horrors of the European War." The Executive Committee of a society of the same race, also declining the invitation, wrote saying they "thought that the people at home are better judges of their rights, their policies and their duties, than any number of praiseworthy and well-meaning men of their race in America." These men are Americans in fact—no hyphen.

The Literary Digest, one of our best and most conservative journals, heads an article in a March number thus: the "Teuton Lobby" in Congress, "an astounding chapter in the continued story of German conspiracy against the United States is to be read in the documents revealing the political activities of the national German-American Alliance." The New York Evening Sun says: "An organized effort has been made and is still being made to rule America from Potsdam."

That staid and conservative journal, The North American Review, thinks that it is high time that something should be done to prevent dual citizenship; that aliens coming here have no right to use their political activities in the interest of their native country, rather than in the welfare of their adopted country and adds, "the hyphen must go." To which every good American says, amen. While the hyphenated societies and leagues have in their members many of the best examples of American citizenship, their members are not ignorant of the fact that their societies are too often used for political purposes and not always in the interest and welfare of their adopted country, but in the interest of their native land. So long as their names appear in the roll of hyphenated citizens, they have no right to complain if the American looks at them askance and questions their loyalty. "No man can serve two masters." The dual citizen must go. This country welcomes, regardless of creed or nationality, men and women, boys and

girls, who will become good, red-blooded United States citizens. May the time soon come when no others need apply: no hyphenated, no dual citizens wanted.

While Europe is involved in this, the greatest war of all times, it is to be expected that each of us should sympathize with the country of his nativity engaged in so cruel a war. But we should never forget our sacred obligations to the land we live in. The strictest neutrality does not imply indifference. That we have been welcomed to this country, protected by its laws, offered every opportunity to advance our own interest, and it is our duty to assist this nation and administration in its sincere desire to retain the friendship of all belligerents and to act the honorable part of a neutral neighbor. Unfortunately, too many of our foreign and hyphenated friends have abused their accepted hospitality, ignored their obligations and have become a danger to the country that welcomes and protects them. They have compelled our government, railroads, shipping concerns and manufacturers, to double-guard their properties and the lives of their employees against a class of these citizens, whose diabolic deeds, smell to heaven.

The traitor to the country in which he lives and whose hospitality he accepts and enjoys, or a traitor to his adopted country, is just as debased and false as is the traitor to the manor born, he "is a stain of his breed, dishonoring manhood's form," a shame and discredit to the mother who gave him birth. We have all heard the expression—"fair weather Christians," which is intended to mean that they are respectable in their church attendance and duties so long as no sacrifice is required of them, while no trying circumstances arise to test their sincerity and integrity. It is much to be regretted that so many of our hyphenated friends have proved that they were only fair weather citizens; that they wore the livery of the loyal citizen to serve the country of their nativity in. Thus has our government been betrayed by unholy tongues, and basely stung by traitorous citizens. That they were considered good citizens is true, which only serves to make their apostacy the more lamentable. What a disappointment, what a degradation, what a perversion from good citizenship.

A nation is but a collection of individuals and the world is generally willing to allow the individual to estimate his own value and importance. Our hyphenated German friends have so often and loudly proclaimed for their country vast supe-

riority in science, art, literature, culture, government and about everything else, that thousands who have given the matter no great thought have actually come to believe them. They are not an inventive people. They are not in any sense pioneers in science, art, government, literature, or music. A very intelligent and able American writer says, "People talk of the scientific German, as of a magical super-monster of research. What is Germany's message to the world? I beg to remark it is not science. England, let us remember, taught the world the elements and foundations of modern practical life, of modern government, and of modern business." Liebig, their greatest chemist, was educated as a chemist in France. Says an American scientist, "The British inventors of the 18th century, Hargreaves, Kay, Wyatt, Arkwright, Watt, etc., gave to us the means by which, and by which alone a rich and broad life can be made for all mankind. They gave us the idea and practice of power-driven machinery. Nothing can take the glory away from them, the most fruitful crop of practical promoters that ever lived." No less an authority than Dr. Henry Smith Williams, when asked for his opinion on the scientific thinkers of Europe, said: "The French, Germans, Italians, Dutch, Scandinavians, have all performed prodigious feats in the conquest of scientific knowledge, but after all, counting everything, the leadership is England's." Another scientific writer says, Who are these Germans that they should bring into international discussion a constant claim to scientific supremacy? "They never produced any man or any ten men, or any hundred men, who so utterly altered all thought for all the world as did Darwin." Nor did they ever produce a Pasteur or an Edison. It was Pasteur in his French laboratory who changed the whole perspective of disease by his germ theory. Before Pasteur's time, the average annual death rate for all civilized nations was 30 to every 1,000 of population. Now the death rate is 15 to the 1,000. It is estimated that there are now 12,000,000 fewer deaths annually in these nations than before Pasteur's day. It is Pasteur's germ theory that has deprived of its victory "that invisible host—the pestilence that walketh in darkness." We owe to French laboratories the new science of Radio-activity, whose possibilities we dare not as yet even predict. And it was our own Edison—the electric wizard, who flung the challenge to the "sable goddess on her ebon throne"

and defied the power of her leaden sceptre to hold the night in darkness.

But Germany has a civic message for the world, and one it would be well for every nation to heed. It is the systematic, intelligent and laborious application of scientific methods and inventions to the arts and industries,—making two blades of grass grow where but one or none grew before, thus giving employment to her people and wealth to the nation. A few years ago two Americans, Brady and Lovejoy, invented a method by which nitrogen could be taken from the air, since which time this nation has paid to foreign countries millions of dollars for nitrogenous material. The Germans, availing themselves of the Brady and Lovejoy invention of synthetic production, take their nitrogen from the air. It is not the inventor who by his genius benefits a nation, but he who makes the invention useful to the people. The British and American bankers, with their staff of clerks and scribes, are simply high class pawn brokers. The German bank includes in its staff, expert mechanics, expert chemists, expert commercial advisers, expert promoters, any one of which is at the service of him who wishes to exploit an invention. If the exploitation meets with the approval of the bank's expert or experts, the bank's money and advisers are at the service of the applicant. Of the modern German pushing spirit,—to quote a recent English writer: "It is the most highly organized machine, the most deliberate and thorough going system for arriving at material ends, which has ever been devised by man." This is Germany's civic message to the world, and I beg to remark that it is not the result of the noble teaching of the Reformation.

The boosting and boasting of this wonderful German learning and culture we hear so much about, is not always from our hyphenated citizens. At a German banquet recently given in New York, Chas. W. Eliot, ex-President of Harvard University, made in a speech, remarks which I have heard severely criticized. He said, "The Teutonic peoples set a higher value on *Truth*, in speech, in thought and in action, than any other peoples." The merciless, inhuman and brutal treatment of Belgium's innocent women and children, the cold blooded murder of that administering angel, Nurse Cavill, the sending of hundreds of inoffensive women and children to their ocean grave in the Lusitania, I suppose are illustrations of their higher value of truth in action. The granting of a holiday to their

school children, that they might too rejoice over the terrifying struggles and the dying screams of despair of the little children clinging to their mothers as they went down to their water grave, I suppose was an illustration of their higher value of truth in thought and a lesson in German Kultur. Their moans, the slimey deep redoubled to the waves and they to heaven. The punishment of this accursed and barbarous crime we leave. English has no language to fittingly depict the ferocity of such parlous brutality. Nor has civilized humanity the mental power to conceive the degradation of soul of him who could honor by decoration the creature who perpetrated the fiendish deed. "Vengeance is mine saith the Lord." Another astounding statement of our ex-President, viz., "The great doctrine of civic liberty, in industries, in society, in government, is the result of the German reformation, and America has been the greatest beneficiary of that noble teaching" There is no nation absolutely independent of all other nations for its advancement in industries, in society, in government, and our nation is the beneficiary of many. Ours is not and never was and never can be an isolated nation, all nations are bound together by commercial and other ties. Our interests have always been and will be bound to the interests of many countries. The natural laws of the universe are over all, we cannot escape our destiny. When Louis XIV. revoked an edict which proved so detrimental to France, it added physical, material and moral force to our country. When the heir to the Austrian throne was struck down at Serajevo, its material and social effects have been felt in our country from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

True, none of the blessings and privileges that we enjoy sprung full fledged from American independence. Not one of our liberties was conceived in America. Every one of them had been for generations fighting that monumental fraud—the divine right of kings—that hollow sham—privilege of birth, that delusive halo of caste.

Long before the German reformation, progressive men in Briton had conceived and dreamed of the principles of temporal and spiritual liberty. Others, inspired with the spirit of Jeremiah, and feeling that "a man's a man for a' that," had proclaimed them; patriots unafraid had fought for them, and many martyrs had died for them. The progress and life of every nation must play its part in the common needs and requirements of universal civilization. The inter-dependence of nations must

necessarily increase with modern facilities. Fortunately, our Constitution was not the beneficiary of that *noble teaching* of the German reformation. It contains no trace of feudalism or serfdom or of privileged classes, or divine right of kings. It has more the footprints of England, France and Holland than of the "noble teaching of Germany." Frederick, called the Great, was but a few years older than Washington. When speaking of his people, he always called them his poor cattle. Down to Napoleon's time the feudal system prevailed in Germany; the people were serfs bound to the soil. The government was, as at present, directed by the privileged classes who had a full belief in the divine right of kings. Frederick wielded a facile pen; he wrote a severe criticism of the famous French atheist Holbach, not for denying God, but for questioning the divinity of kings. In Prussia, of Frederick's subjects there were probably not five hundred persons outside the public service who had any political opinion of their own. The army was officered entirely by the nobility. The nobility were not allowed any occupation except the service of the crown. At the opening of the 19th century, Germany still remained a prey to the tribal system of the Middle Ages. In fact, it was not until 1807 that the edict of Ritter von Stein abolished the mediæval arrangement of Prussian society, viz., serfage and the fixed line of distinction between noble, burghers and peasant.

It is a debatable question whether there would have been any United States had it not been for the help of France, in money, ships, munitions and men. France was the only continental European power that played a conspicuous part in establishing and influencing the early history and independence of the United States. Germany sent her Hessians, but surely we were not her beneficiaries on that account. The Italian Ferrero acknowledged internationally as one of the greatest historians of the age, says of Italy: "At least part of the intellectual and moral disorders from which our generation has suffered so much is due to German ideas and teaching. Through these we are losing our sense of right and justice in the great affairs of the world, our sense of humanities in art, philosophy, literature and politics." He is evidently not enamored with the noble teaching of Germany.

Our good Dr. Eliot must have forgotten that the English priest and great reformer, Wycliffe, preceded Luther by some 150 years, that the British were heading for democracy 100

years before that in the Magna Charta, struggling to keep alive the spark of freedom throughout the long dark ages of violence and oppression; the example of their sacrifices and their noble teaching have come bowling down the ages. Now to wane and recede, but never to dye out. John Calvin and John Knox were contemporaries of Luther. A great number of people, and I expect we might include Mary, Queen of Scots, thought Knox was some reformer. Carlyle called him the master mind of his day. An American writer says of him, "To the memory of John Knox we acknowledge our obligations, we are what we are because this man lived."

The pioneers of New England were more the beneficiaries of Calvin and Knox than of Luther. They brought with them their Puritan conscience, the spirit of the Scotch Covenanters—Religious liberty or death—never submit, never surrender! But charity is the greatest of all virtues and we must not be too exacting in criticising a post-prandial speech. Our good Dr. Eliot is a gentleman and a ripe scholar, I have no doubt, but the German wine was of the best brand and plenty of it, and he considered it the proper thing under the circumstance, and who would not, to deal out a little fulsome praise and flattery to his hosts, who would readily credit him with a high sense of truth in speech, and believe that he was the beneficiary of that great virtue from the "noble teaching of the German reformation."

Let us remember too that our good Dr. Eliot said, "the German peoples," and we must not forget that there is a wide distinction between the German peoples and the Prussian military autocracy. The Germans, when not hypnotized by Prussian militarism, are a sympathetic and kindly people, the Allies bear them no unkindness. They leave to Prussia a monopoly of the gospel of hate. They realize that the peasants are dragooned into the army and made to believe by the Prussian militarist that they are fighting in defense of their fatherland.

Great Britain was twenty years in sending Napoleon to St. Helena. Her population at that time was only about ten millions. It was not her numbers, it was British pluck and persistence. Now the great British Empire encircles the earth. Some portion of her people are every hour in the twenty-four enjoying the sunlight. Now her population is counted by the hundreds of millions. It is not to the noble teaching of the German reformation, but to British love of liberty, civil and religious, and to justice, inasmuch as rich and poor are equal

before the law (conceived long before the reformation), she owes the fact that from the remotest corners of her vast Empire—from “some place far abroad, where sailors gang to fish for cod,” to India’s coral strands, comes voluntary help in her hour of need. Her enemies hoped and thought that the British state was disjointed and out of frame, and that they could alienate her provinces and engender and foster internecine strife in Ireland. Of the two great Irish leaders, he of the north, Sir Edward Carson, became a member of the British cabinet, and the Hon. John Redmond of the south said in Parliament, “I tell the Government they can take every British soldier out of Ireland to meet the enemy of the Empire. Ireland’s sons will take care of Ireland. The Catholics of the south will stand shoulder to shoulder with their Protestant fellow countrymen of the north to fight the common foe,” and they are making good. Canada’s answer to the enemy’s intrigues is: We are coming, Mother Britain, 500,000 strong; 500,000 patriotic hardy sons of the north, in the morning of their manhood. The bleaching bones of the Emden is Australia’s monument of her loyalty to her mother. In Africa the British enemy has been despoiled of her possessions, while from far off India comes the cry, “Our sunburnt sons are coming. Long live the British Empire.”

“The best laid schemes of mice and men gang aft aglee.” Autocracy’s hope of world dominion is fading like a dream. That strange psychological power of common suffering and the mingling of the blood of British subjects together in a common cause for democracy has cemented the British Empire and guaranteed the imperial destiny of all the British possessions. 1914 will mark a new era for Great Britain and her Provinces. It was then they were reborn and became the great British Empire, one and indivisible and will stand or fall fighting for the principles of justice, humanity and representative government by the people, for the people. “For he to-day that sheds his blood with me shall be my brother; be he ne’er so vile. This day shall gentle his condition.”

The English language is the commercial language of the world and will remain so, the world dominion is not for the noble teaching of Germany. The British provinces are not to be torn from their mother. Their sturdy sons are giving a good account of themselves at the front. A few weeks ago a Dutch statistician stated that Germany was spending 80 per

cent of her national income for war purposes, and that England was spending 10 per cent of hers. (It was stated in the *Scientific American* that the German government has borrowed more money than all the Allies.) It does not require an expert to figure out what the necessary result must be. With her long and thorough preparation for war, and with twice the number of troops and four times the number of artillery. Germany thought by falling suddenly upon her unprepared victim, she could smash her way to Paris. She found to her cost that the Belgian soldiers of to-day are worthy sons of worthy sires. The great Cæsar pronounced the Belgians the bravest soldiers of Europe. And she failed to trample down the invincible French and British soldiers, chivalrously fighting for France, for home and humanity, out numbered and half prepared as they were. As to the final outcome of this great war, there can be but one ending, the Allies have no call for discouragement.

"Thrice is he armed that hath his quarrel just."

Goth "Shall perish, write the word,
In the blood that she has spilt,
Perish, hopeless and abhorred,
Deep in ruin as in guilt."

While there are a dozen nations involved in this great crisis, "the fundamental reason of this war, whose great decision hath much blood let forth," is the irrepressible conflict between democracy and autocracy, between the democratic British Empire and the autocratic German Nation. Between democracy and autocracy there is a deep mutual distrust and antagonism, an irrepressible moral conflict. Whether representative government is to endure, or if autocracy with its divine right of kings is necessary for the government of nations, is in progress of solution. The sword will not be returned to its sheath until this great question is determined. There will be no compromise, "One must prove greatest—till then, blows, blood and death." Woe to democracy if autocracy be victorious! if military despotism prevails! Then indeed will the government of the people, by the people and for the people, perish from the earth. The famous political and social psychologist Graham Wallas says, "a decisive victory for the German governing caste in their present temper would be in my view a disaster to all that I most value in civilization." The noted publicist A. G. Gardier says, "behind the militarism of Napoleon

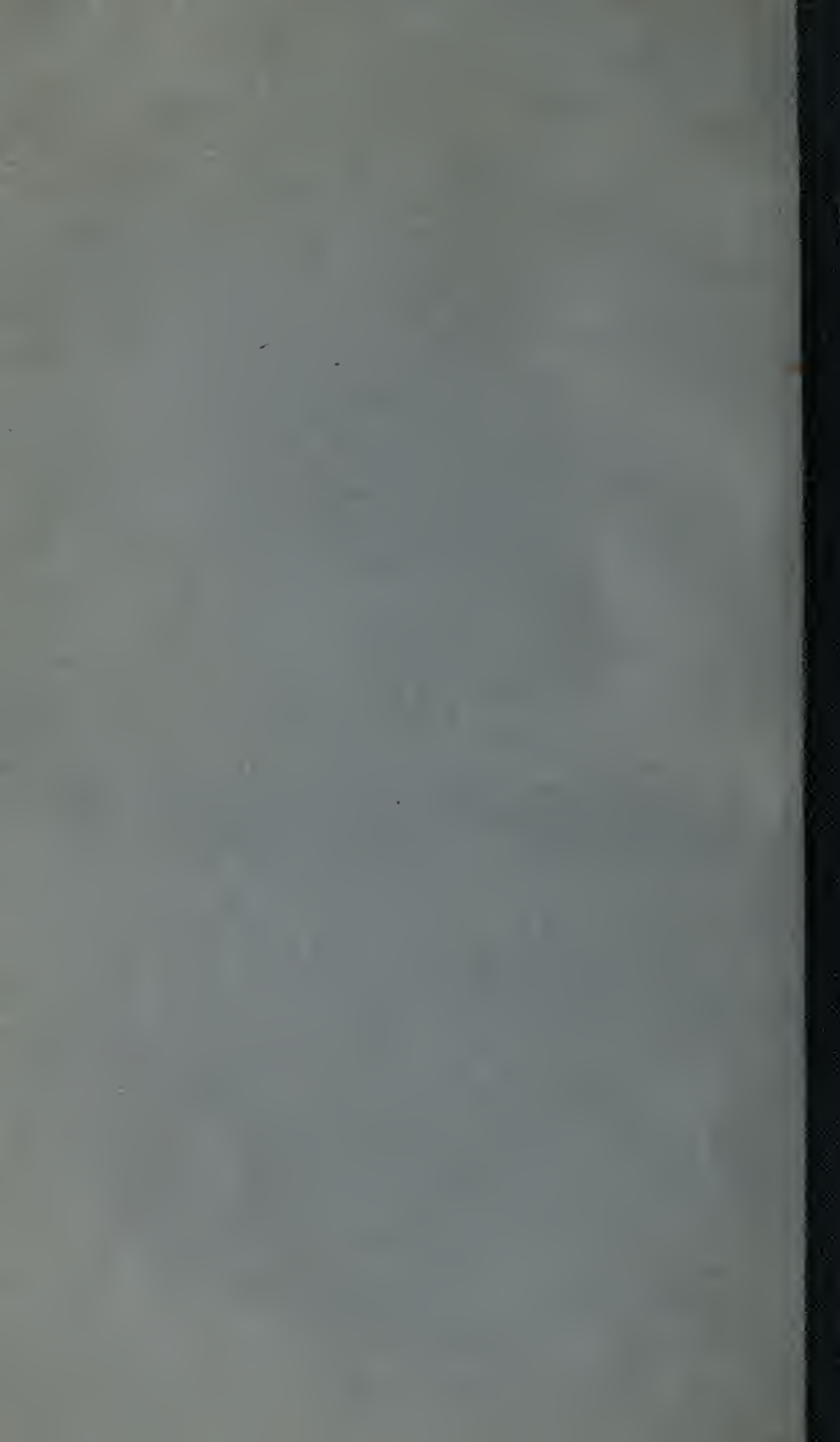
there was a certain human and even democratic fervour, but behind the gospel of the Kaiser there is nothing but the death of the free human spirit."

When one or the other of these cries, Hold, enough! there will be peace. But until then, unfortunately, the non-military participant peace makers may continue to meet, pray, talk, resolve and adjourn, and wait till danger's troubled night depart and the star of peace return. International law, peace treaties, arbitration treaties, national praying bouts, Ford lunacy vaporings without adequate means to enforce their demands and desires, are as inefficient for peace as the stuff that dreams are made of.

Germany has lost all her provinces; all her foreign trade. Her flag is no longer seen in the marts of the world. "Britannia rules the waves."

"Shatter the beauteous breast you may,
The spirit of Britain none can slay;
Dash the bomb on the dome of Paul's,
Deem ye the fame of Nelson falls?"

The British are a dogged, stubborn and persistent race. Her sons at the front to-day came from fathers of war proof, fathers who for liberty, justice and humanity have carnadined the Seven Seas and consecrated every land with their blood.



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